



July 5, 2024

To: Transportation Planning Committee

From: Daniel Callister

Subject: Draft 2024 Public Participation Plan

**Action Requested:** Recommend Metropolitan Policy Committee (MPC) approval of the 2024 Public Participation Plan

### **Issue Statement**

Central Lane MPO staff has prepared a draft Public Participation Plan (PPP) to replace the current plan adopted in 2015. A public hearing was held, and a 45-day public comment period concluded May 12. The comments received have been considered and incorporated into the draft.

### **Discussion**

Federal law requires MPOs to develop and use a documented participation plan that provides interested parties with reasonable opportunities to be involved in the metropolitan transportation planning process. This plan has been developed to replace the 2015 plan and includes updated policy language and procedures, as well as tools, strategies, and evaluation methods.

Several appendices are included documenting public comments and how those influenced the plan development, a report of the results of the 2023 public participation survey, additional tools for participation, and other information.

The more detailed presentation of the draft PPP was provided at the April 4 MPC meeting, including how the draft PPP addresses and satisfies certain federal corrective actions pertaining to the PPP.

Changes to the draft since release for public review are summarized below.

-The section titled *Summary of Comments and How they Influenced this Plan* in Appendix B has been augmented to document changes resulting from input received during the formal public comment period, which include:

Addition of an evaluation measure (see Chapter 4) for number of comments that resulted in changes [to what would have happened absent that input].

Recognition that among the regular interested parties there are parties that are more genuinely interested than others and the MPO should explicitly consult with these parties to understand their interests and how they wish to participate with the MPO.

Clarification of the role that the electronic Transportation Improvement Program (currently in development) will have in providing continuing real-time information to the public about planned and current MPO projects, and the spending of public funds.

Clarification about the informational brochure currently being updated by the MPO, which explains in clear terms how transportation planning and implementation is done in the metropolitan area, including the roles of the MPO and its partners, how to get involved, and when the public's input can be most effective.

-Inclusion of the comments received during the public review process.

-The definition/intent of Objective 2 (p10) states that "...staff will respond to all public comments..." This will be clarified now to state "...staff will acknowledge all public comments and respond as necessary..."

-Updates to the description of the 2024 plan adoption timeline.

-Various spelling, punctuation, formatting, or other minor corrections.

### **Public Involvement**

Public involvement during the development of this plan has been extensive and is documented in Chapter 1 of the draft. Plan adoption follows the procedures laid out in the current PPP, including a 45-day public comment period which began on the date of the publication of the April MPC agenda and concluded May 12, with a public hearing held April 4. The draft plan presented today has incorporated revisions based on the comments received.

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### **Attachment:**

- Draft 2024 Public Participation Plan
- Comments on Draft Plan